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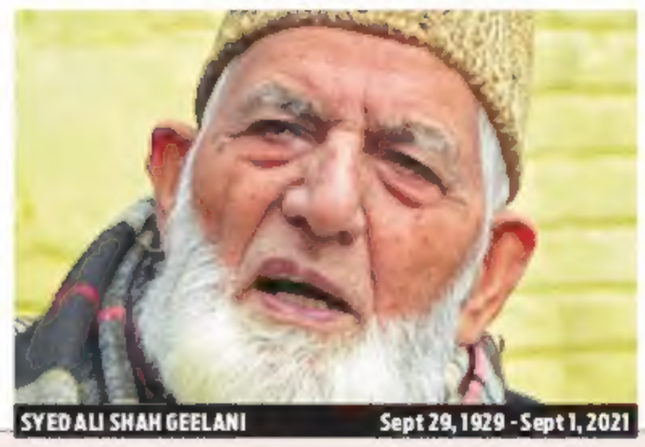
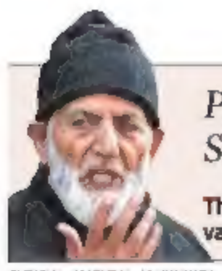


SYED ALI SHAH GEELANI Sept 29, 1929 - Sept 1, 2021



PRO-PAK SEPARATIST LEADER SYED ALI SHAH GEELANI DEAD

The hardline Kashmiri separatist had been suffering from various ailments for the past two decades. He was 92 yrs old

HAD BEEN AILING FOR TWO DECADES

Geelani, who was under house detention since 2010, had been ailing for a long time. According to his family, he developed health complications on Wednesday afternoon and passed away at 10.30 pm at his Srinagar residence. Geelani was a member of Jamaat-e-Islami Kashmir but later quit Jamaat to found his own party called Tehreek-e-Hurriyat

HARDLINER WHO CHOSE PAK OVER INDIA

- He was opposed to bilateral talks on Kashmir and favoured tripartite talks involving Pakistan, Kashmiri leaders and India
- Geelani was also the chairman of the Hurriyat Conference, an umbrella of different separatist groups, but quit the outfit last year following the abrogation of the special status of J&K | P10

3-time

GEELANI WAS ELECTED MLA FROM SOPORE IN 1972, 1977 AND 1987

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Schools reopen, students upbeat

Sense of joy, some trepidation and a smattering of bending of the Covid SOPs in many states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

HAVE you ever yearned to go to school so badly that you'd even brave a downpour to get there? Well, if you haven't been a school student during Covid, you might not get that feeling. On September 1, a whole 17 months after she last set foot in a classroom, Sanjana Sen, a Class XI student from Delhi was halfway to school when it started raining in Delhi. Her father wanted to take her back home. But she was adamant. "I wanted to go to school very, very badly. So we somehow got there even without an umbrella," said the teenager who hadn't met her friends in what seems like forever.

A student of Sharda Sen Rajkiya Kanya Sarvodaya Vidyalaya, she added that getting back to school was an exhilarating experience for her. "I met new teachers in Class XI and it was an amazing day. I was dying to go to school," she chirped. But not everyone in Delhi was as lucky as Sanjana. Himanshu and Nandini, siblings and classmates in Class IX, said that they were yearning to go to school but couldn't. The heavy rains coupled with rumours of how flooding increased the imminent threat of Covid accounted for a large degree of absenteeism (far lower than the allowed 50% limit) in the Capital.

As schools reopened in several states — Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tripura, Delhi, Meghalaya and Arunachal — with strict Covid-19 protocols in place, nostalgia met trepidation down the middle.

While the closure in Rajasthan only stands at five months, most parents are still apprehensive as only around 20% have given written consent to send their children for physical classes. With kids yet to be vaccinated, parents continue are a worried lot. Dr Rekha Moolchandani, the mother of a Class 12 student, said she was not ready to send her son to school as the vaccination process for students is yet to start. "The third wave may hit any time and sending them to school is not safe. My son is comfortable studying online and we support him as he is safe," she said.

Schools in all 75 districts in UP reopened, but private schools deferred it because of a lack of consent from parents. Madhya Pradesh had a similar problem with attendance figures stuck around 15-20%. The turnout was similarly low in the Northeast, where states like Meghalaya have only vaccinated about 72% of the teachers.

CONTINUED ON P7

Students head out of school after class hours on Shankar Mutt Road, in Bengaluru on Wednesday | SHRIKANTH

Kolar school shuts for 7 days after +ve case

A Class 9 student of KGF Sree Mahaveer Jain School has tested positive for Covid-19, following which, Kolar Deputy Commissioner Dr Selvamani has ordered sealing down of the institution for seven days.

AFGHANISTAN

Taliban govt in the works, parleys on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

WITH the US forces completely withdrawing from Afghanistan, the Taliban leaders are holding hectic negotiations to form a government. While some leaders have claimed they have finalised the broad contours of the government, no formal announcement has been made yet. According to reports, the delay is due to differences among various factions of the Taliban vying for lucrative posts.

It is widely believed that top Taliban leader Hibatullah Akhundzada will head the regime as Supreme Leader from Kandahar, with his deputy Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar running the daily affairs of the government from Kabul. There are talks about including women in the government to make it inclusive, but the top posts are likely to be held by men.

With the Kabul airport remaining inoperable after the withdrawal of US troops, the Taliban are in touch with Qatar and Turkey to resume flights.

In his address to the nation, US President Joe Biden defended his decision to withdraw all troops ahead of deadline. P11

Firhad Hakim

Subrata Mukherjee

2 Didi ministers figure in ED chargesheet on money sting

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

TWO Trinamool Congress ministers, one party lawmaker, a former mayor and an IPS officer were named as accused in the Narada sting money laundering chargesheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate in a Kolkata court on Thursday. All five had been arrested on May 17 by the CBI in a separate case on the sting operation filed by it, a fortnight after the Trinamool returned to power with a thumping majority for the third straight term, drawing charges of political vendetta.

The five persons named as accused in the ED chargesheet are ministers Firhad Hakim and Subrata Mukherjee, MLA Madan Mitra, former mayor of Kolkata Sovan Chatterjee and IPS officer S M H Mirza. The fact that the CBI chose not to go after two other heavyweights, Suvendu Adhikari and Mukul Roy, both defectors from the TMC to BJP, had strengthened allegations that the agency was a caged parrot. P10

₹25 LPG price up 3rd time since July

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

LPG cylinder price was hiked yet again by ₹25 on Wednesday, the third hike since July 1. After the latest price rise, a 14.2-kg non-subsidised cylinder costs ₹885 in Delhi and Mumbai, ₹900 in Chennai, and ₹911 in Kolkata.

The last price change was on August 17, when the price was raised by ₹25. On July 1 also, the price was hiked by the same amount. LPG prices have gone up ₹190 since the beginning of 2021 and ₹290 since last September. The prices have more than doubled since September 2014, when a cylinder cost ₹427.

Hitting out at the Centre for the price hike, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said, "There's a new concept of GDP. Rising GDP means rise in prices of gas, diesel and petrol."

This is the 9th hike in LPG prices in the past one year, during which the price was cut only once, on 1 April, by ₹10.

With the subsidies on LPG cylinders now limited to marginal freight subsidies for those in remote locations, higher prices are pinching the common man.

EXPRESS READ

State gets HC nod to permit bullock cart races

BENGALURU: The Karnataka High Court has given nod to the State Government to permit bullock cart races, subject to conditions imposed by the apex court to ensure no cruelty to animals. P4

NATIONWIDE	AUG 31	SEPT 1
Fresh cases	30,941	41,965
Recoveries	36,275	33,964
Deaths	350	460

KARNATAKA	AUG 31	SEPT 1
Fresh cases	1,217	1,159
Recoveries	1,198	1,112
Deaths	25	21

Shri. Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

Shri. Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Home Minister
and
Shri. Basavaraj S. Bommai, Hon'ble Chief Minister
will inaugurate Gandhi Bhavan and Police Public School in

Shri. Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

DAVANAGERE DISTRICT

on 02.09.2021

Inauguration of Gandhi Bhavan
3.20 PM. Venue: Gandhi Bhavan Premises, Davanagere.
Presided by: Shri. S.A. Raveendranath
Hon'ble MLA, Davanagere North Constituency

Inauguration of Police Public School
4.00 PM. Venue: Kondajji, Harihara Taluk.
Presided by: Shri. S. Ramappa
Hon'ble MLA, Harihara Constituency

Shri. Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Home Minister, at the inauguration of "Police Gruha 2025" project on 16.01.2021 in Bengaluru.

In the August Presence of

Shri. Araga Jnanendra
Hon'ble Home Minister

Shri. B.A. Basavaraja (Byrati)
Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development

Shri. Murugesh R. Nirani
Hon'ble Minister for Large & Medium Industries

Guest of Honour
Dr. G.M. Siddeshwara
Hon'ble MP, Davanagere Lok Sabha Constituency

Chief Guests

Hon'ble MLAs
Shri. K. Madal Virupakshappa
Channagiri Constituency and Chairman and Director, Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited, Bengaluru
Dr. Shamanuru Shivashankarappa
Davanagere South Constituency
Shri. S.V. Ramachandra
Jagaluru Constituency and Chairman, Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation, Bengaluru.
Shri. M.P. Renukacharya
Honnali Constituency
Prof. N. Linganna
Mayakonda Constituency and Chairman, Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram Leather Industries Development Corporation

Hon'ble MLCs
Shri. G. Raghu Achar
Shri. Lehar Singh Siroya
Shri. R. Prasanna Kumar
Shri. Mohan Kumar Kondajji
Shri. Ravi Kumar N.
Shri. K.P. Nanjundi Vishwakarma
Dr. Tejashwini Gowda
Shri. S.L. Bhoje Gowda
Shri. Ayanur Manjunath
Dr. Y.A. Narayanaswamy
Shri. Chidananda M. Gowda
Shri. R. Shankar

Shri. S.T. Veeresh
Worshipful Mayor Mahanagara Palike, Davanagere
Shri. Devaramani Shivakumar
Hon'ble Chairman, Davanagere-Harihara Urban Development Authority, Davanagere
Shri. Gangadhara H.
Hon'ble President, Gram Panchayat, Kondajji

And all elected representatives of the District will participate in the programme as chief guests.

As is enshrined in our Constitution, to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID 19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE
Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations